

IMPLEMENT SIGNED MEANS TEST STRATEGY (ROSSIO 24)

USER MANUAL

Patch EAS*1*4

November 2001

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Department of Veterans Affairs **V**/ST**A** System Design & Development

Revision History

| Brief Description | Author |
|-------------------|--------|
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Introduction

Overview

Internal Revenue Service (IRS) regulations require that the Health Eligibility Center (HEC) ensure that they have a signed means test (MT) on file before performing income verification matching against IRS data. The issue of a signed means test was also addressed in Item 24 of the Rossio Report. In response, the HEC has implemented a process in which the VAMCs send them an electronic copy of the signed means test. The HEC then indexes the means test image and tracks whether or not the imaged signature is present and signed by the veteran with acceptable clarity. The HEC purchased an imaging system from Document Storage Systems, Inc. (DSS) for this indexing and storing, as well as for storing the signature indicator.

The "Implement Signed Means Test Strategy (Rossio 24)" project includes the capture, HEC storage, transmission and Veterans Information System & Technology Architecture (VISTA) storage of the HEC staff's assessment of the presence and validity of the means test's signature, as well as including audit reports of site compliance. The work process associated with managing the means test signature is new to both the HEC and the Veterans Affairs Medical Centers (VAMCs).

Functionality

Patch EAS*1*4 will provide authorized users with the ability to generate new reports to detail Means Test signature statistics.

Access to Documentation

You can download the Implement Signed Means Test Strategy *VISTA* documentation as follows:

From the Anonymous Directory

- 1. Go to the anonymous software directory.
- 2. Ftp the files listed in the following table. Remember to use binary format.

| File Name | Documentation Component |
|-----------------|--|
| EAS_1_P4_UM.pdf | Implement Signed Means Test Strategy User Manual |

From the Project Notebook Web Page

http://tspr.vista.med.va.gov/warboard/anotebk.asp?proj=519

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Using the Software

Means Test Signature Reports

Before you start, please note:

❖ You must have the DG SUPERVISOR security key to use this option!

Means Test Signature Reports is a new option under the PIMS ADT Module's Means Test Supervisor Menu. This option may be used to generate management reports containing Means Test signature statistics for your site. You may specify either of two different report formats:

- Means Test Signature Summary Report
- Means Test Signature Detailed Report

You will then be required to select an income year and a print device, after which the **V***ISTA* system will deliver the requested report.

The statistics generated by these reports will only include those veterans who have a Means Test with Status of A, C or Pending Adjudication as these are the only MT statuses that require obtaining a signature.

Means Test Signature Summary Report

The purpose of this report is to help VAMCs monitor the Means Test images returned to them by the HEC. The report only shows signature indicators for Means Tests that were submitted by the <u>local</u> site (which may, or may not, be designated as the *primary* site). It does <u>NOT</u> take into account that the HEC may already have a signature on file for the veteran as sent from a different, primary site.

The report may be requested for the previous income year, current income year, or next income year.

The report generated will include a count of the MT signature indicators for the local site in each of the following categories:

| Yes | Means Test image signed by veteran |
|---------|--|
| No | Means Test image NOT signed by veteran |
| Deleted | Means Test Signature Indicator deleted by direct user edit |
| Null | A Means Test document has not been imaged |

An example of this report may be found in Appendix A of this document.

1. From the **Means Test Signature Reports** option, select **Means Test Signature Summary Report** and press <ENTER>.

```
Select Systems Manager Menu Option: Means Test Signature Reports

SSR Means Test Signature Summary Report

SDR Means Test Signature Detail Report

Select Means Test Signature Reports Option: SSR Means Test

Signature Summary Report
```

2. Enter Income Year: (Selection criteria: previous income year, current income year, next income year) and press <ENTER>.

```
Please select income year:

A) Previous Income Year
B) Current Income Year
C) Next Income Year
```

3. Select print device.

```
Select Device: HOME//
```

Means Test Signature Detailed Report

The purpose of this report is to list those veterans at a particular site for which a signature still needs to be obtained. A veteran will ONLY be listed if NEITHER the local site NOR the primary site (if different) has obtained a signature. Once a signature has been obtained by EITHER the local OR primary (if different) site, the veteran will be removed from this list

The report may be requested for the previous income year, current income year, or next income year.

The report generated will include the following information on each veteran:

- Name
- Social Security Number
- Means Test Status
- Means Test Signature Indicator

It will also give a count of the number of No, Null, and Deleted indicators, as well as the total number of veterans in the report.

An example of this report may be found in Appendix B of this document.

1. From the **Means Test Signature Reports** option, select **Means Test Signature Detailed Report** and press <ENTER>.

```
Select Systems Manager Menu Option: Means Test Signature Reports

SSR Means Test Signature Summary Report

SDR Means Test Signature Detail Report

Select Means Test Signature Reports Option: SDR Means Test

Signature Detail Report
```

2. Enter Income Year: (Selection criteria: previous income year, current income year, next income year) and press <ENTER>.

```
Please select income year:
```

- A) Previous Income Year
- B) Current Income Year
- C) Next Income Year
- 3. Select print device.

```
Select Device: HOME//
```

Glossary

Acronyms

| Acronym | Description |
|---------|---|
| DSS | Document Storage System, Inc. |
| GUI | Graphical User Interface |
| HEC | Health Eligibility Center |
| IRS | Internal Revenue Service |
| IVM | Income Verification Match |
| MT | Means Test |
| VAMC | Veterans Affairs Medical Center |
| VISTA | Veterans Information System & Technology Architecture |

Appendix A – Means Test Signature Summary Report

| | Total | 2145 |
|--------------------|-------------------------------|------|
| Local Site MT with | Signature Indicator = NULL | 100 |
| Local Site MT with | Signature Indicator = DELETED | 5 |
| Local Site MT with | Signature Indicator = NO | 40 |
| Local Site MT with | Signature Indicator = YES | 2000 |

Key for Means Test Signature Indicators:

| Yes | Means Test image signed by veteran |
|---------|---|
| No | Means Test image NOT signed by veteran |
| Deleted | Means Test Signature Indicator deleted by direct user edit* |
| Null | A Means Test document has not been imaged |

^{*}The MT signature indicator would be deleted by direct user edit in cases where HEC assigned a value to an image and then later discovered that they had selected the wrong veteran/site/income year combination. The value "DELETED" is used in this report to track those cases wherein the indicator was entered and then later deleted due to an error being made as noted above.

Appendix B – Means Test Signature Detailed Report

| Veteran Name | SSN | MT Status | MT Sig Indicator (Primary/Local Site) |
|--|---|--|--|
| Jones, Bill | 123-45-6781 | Α | NO |
| Black, Mary | 123-45-6782 | С | NO |
| Green, Joyn Red, Jan Orange, Michelle Purple, Todd Yellow, Marcy | 123-45-6783 123-45-6789 123-45-6781 123-45-6782 123-45-6787 | Pending Adjudication A C A C | DELETED NO NULL NULL NO |

NO indicator = 4 NULL indicator = 2 DELETED indicator = 1 Count of Veterans =7

Key for Means Test Signature Indicators:

| Yes | Means Test image signed by veteran |
|---------|---|
| No | Means Test image NOT signed by veteran |
| Deleted | Means Test Signature Indicator deleted by direct user edit* |
| Null | A Means Test document has not been imaged |

^{*}The MT signature indicator would be deleted by direct user edit in cases where HEC assigned a value to an image and then later discovered that they had selected the wrong veteran/site/income year combination. The value "DELETED" is used in this report to track those cases wherein the indicator was entered and then later deleted due to an error being made as noted above.

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